

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, JUNE 24, 1847.

We neglected to call attention last week to the series of papers on slavery, by William Jackson, the second number of which appears in today's Era. We owe the writer an apology for so long delaying his articles, but they have lost nothing by keeping.

We are crowded with communications, and would be happy to accommodate all our friends at once. But, let patience have its perfect work. Every now and then we overhaul our pigeon-holes, so as not to forget the favors which have been showered upon us. Let no one despair. We often find just the very space for a communication, after it has been waiting for three months. Meantime, correspondents must remember that, for obvious reasons, we must not neglect the miscellaneous part of the paper.

On the fourth page we present both sides of the question of religious instruction among slaves. The letter of a Presbyterian of Charleston, S. C., to the Bishop of Oxford, has been circulated in many Southern papers. They will now have an opportunity of seeing the letter from an Episcopalian to Bishop Ives, (the production, by the way, of a son of the first Chief Justice of the United States). It will be concluded in our next.

COMMUNICATIONS.

That our friends, whose favors are occasionally so long delayed, may understand the reason, we subjoin a list of the communications on hand, awaiting publication:

1. Views of a Western Man on Seeing Slavery, No. 3.
2. Essay on Slavery, by William Jackson, three more numbers.
3. Letters From and About Virginia, with Remarks, by L. T.
4. Letter from Jacob Seely.
5. Communication from A. B. Church.
6. Review, by L. T.
7. Letter of Hiram Wilson.
8. Reform—Temperance—the Clergy, by W. G. K.
9. Ministers—Reform, by Eleutheria.
10. Constitutionality or Unconstitutionality of Slavery, by E.
11. The Other Side, by D.
12. Intention of the Framers of the Constitution.
13. Facts Worth Knowing.
14. Testimony of the Founders of our Institutions.
15. Difficulties in the Way of Emancipation.
16. Bible Doctrine of Servitude, by W. W.
17. Communication from Milo A. Townsend.
18. Communication from Dr. W. of Philadelphia, enclosing a selection from the Non-Slaveholder.
19. Communication from W. Holderness.
20. The Laws of Slavery in Louisiana.
21. The Right of the Slave to the Bible, with Prefatory Remarks, by L. T.
22. Slavery, as Created and Established by Law.
23. The National Convention, by "Down East."
24. Communication from William S. Porter. (Will Mr. P. please send us the Charter Oak referred to?)
25. Emily and Alice, on American Slavery.
26. Communication from a Carolinian.
27. The Spirit of Freedom, by Rev. D. True-man.
28. Communication from L. of Cincinnati.

Some of these communications defer for much of their effect upon an early publication. These, of course, will take precedence of others, which are interesting without any reference to time.

NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENTS AND READERS.

It is impossible to write with a fettered pen. Hence, it is with great reluctance we interfere with correspondents, choosing rather, where serious injury will not probably result, to let them speak all that is in their hearts, in their own style, though objectionable, perhaps, to our own judgment. We do this because no editor is infallible, because tastes are various, and because much may be safely left to the discretion of readers. Nevertheless, we reserve the right to withhold such correspondence as we see fit, or to omit such parts as our judgment dictates, taking care, however, not to misrepresent by such omission the views of a contributor. But if we exercise this right leniently, the reader must understand that it is because we would rather err on the side of free discussion than against it. It is fully to expect perfection in a newspaper. God's will is full of imperfection, owing to man's fall. It is not an editor's part to say, "I shall the little picture he weekly presents to his readers be exempt from the faults of the original? Some things may be done by men singly. Then each can please himself to a T. He may have his coat cut precisely to every notion, when, or prejudice of his own. But other things must be done in association or combination, and here, all that each can expect is a reasonable fulfillment of the main object aimed at. When many persons unite in calling a pastor, the assumption is that he will do all that he can, according to his best judgment, to discharge the duties of his station. All may believe him honest, capable, useful—this he may demonstrate to them—but does each man expect him always to say and do precisely what to him may seem the best? What an absurdity! And so, some thousands of people, living over a surface of some thousands of miles, constituted variously, educated diversely, circumstanced differently, unite and become subscribers to a newspaper whose leading object they approve. They believe its editor honest, capable, useful—but it is to be expected that every line, every sentence, or allows, will please every taste; that every principle he states, every movement he makes, will be deemed by each subscriber precisely right—the very principle that ought to be stated—the very movement that ought to be made! Impossible! Well, if "John Smith the Younger" should take a certain view of the law, and not please John Smith the Older, what of it? Can you expect the two Smiths always to think alike? And if the junior Smith displeases the New York Evangelist in his animadversions on denominational benevolence, will not the Evangelist recollect that his frank condemnation of the faithfulness of the church was no less displeasing to its more cautious brethren? Is there any ground for acrimony of feeling or comment? What have they been doing the last six thousand years? If Buncombe make an incautious assertion, let Buncombe keep his temper, and thank the editor that to him is secured the privilege of correcting it.

As a matter of justice, we shall quote next week a portion of the comment of the New York Evangelist on the remarks of John Smith the Younger concerning Benevolent Associations.

TO THE NATIONAL ERA.

We wrote an account, a few weeks since, of the battles fought on the Sabbath day by General Taylor and Scott, and we took our information from the National Era. There appears, on examining the dates, that there is some discrepancy in the calculation, which we wish the editor of the Era to correct.—*Clarence of Freedom.*

The "information" was quoted, set up, and placed within quotation marks. We copied from the *North American*. We did wrong in so copying, without having ascertained ourselves of the accuracy of the statements—but we are not often culpable in this respect.

NORTHERN TOUR OF THE PRESIDENT.

The President left the city last Tuesday on a short tour to the North, not to exceed a fortnight. He has been invited by the Legislatures of Maine and New Hampshire to extend his visit to the capitals of those States, and will probably do so. Preparations are on foot in the principal cities of the East to receive him with due honors.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBERTY CONVENTION.

Will the editor of the *Washington Patriot* please forward us the number of his paper containing the report of the proceedings of the Pennsylvania Liberty Convention. The one received was mislaid.

We learn that the Convention met on the 3d instant, at Harrisburg, and nominated Dr. F. J. Lenoire, of Washington, Pa., for the office of Governor, and W. B. Thomas, for that of Canal Commissioner; that a Central State Convention was appointed; and that the Convention was too nearly balanced on the question of the time of holding a National Nominating Convention, to recommend either of the two periods proposed—next fall or spring.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

The seventh Annual Meeting of this Society was held on the 17th of May, in Finsbury Chapel, London.

On the platform, we observed the Comte de Montemolin, the Marquis de Villa Franca, the Chevalier de Berard, Sir George Strickland, Baronet, M. P.; Joseph Sturge, G. W. Alexander, J. Cooper, Eliza Burritt, J. and W. Forster, Thomas Catechop, John Dymond, F. Wheeler, R. Forster, (Cambridge), J. Braun, (U. S.), J. Dumas, James Watson, (Africa), John Carter, John Rutter, Henry Clapp, (U. S.), John Chandler, Esquires; and the following ministers: Rev. C. Ratray, (Demerara), T. Craig, Dr. Wright, J. Kennerly, H. H. H. Joseph Angers, J. J. Freeman, W. Leak, William, Owen, &c.

Dr. Lushington took the chair, and Joseph Sturge read the report for the past year. The meeting was addressed by the President, Sir George Strickland, Rev. J. Angus, Henry Clapp, of Massachusetts, Rev. P. Boucher, editor of *La Voix Nouvelle*, Rev. Stephen Gloucester, (colonial evangelist of Philadelphia), Rev. C. Ratray, missionary from Demerara, Joseph Sturge, and Eliza Burritt.

JUSTICE AT LAST.

A Philadelphia correspondent, in a note dated June 18th, says: "The proper authorities yesterday paid over to the trustees of the Pennsylvania Hall Association the sum of \$27,943.77, being the amount of the judgments obtained against the company. The judgments, with interest, for damages occasioned by the burning of the Pennsylvania Hall, in May, 1837."

"This sum, it is thought, will be sufficient to pay off all the outstanding claims against the Association, and leave almost 20 per cent. to be divided among the stockholders."

NEW YORK ELECTION.

The Albany Evening Journal publishes full returns of the Judicial Election, from all the counties in the State, except Broome, Livingston, and Oswego. We present the results:

Judges of the Court of Appeals.	
Whigs.	Democrats.
Whitelsey 121,884	Reynolds 137,974
Reynolds 116,961	Ruggles 133,734
Nixon 117,728	Gardiner 137,771
Jordan 120,925	Jewett 131,664
LaMont 124,590	Benton 131,645

SCARCITY OF FOOD.

Much suffering has been experienced in Charles county, Maryland, among the poor, owing to the high price of provisions. Measures are in process to relieve the distress.

THE CROPS.

Although from a few localities reports concerning the crops are unfavorable, generally the accounts are such as lead us to anticipate an abundant harvest. Though the produce may not be as much in proportion, yet so vast has been the additional quantity of seed put in, that the absolute produce will be far greater than we predicted, than the country has yet witnessed. Thank Heaven, there is little hope for speculators, but much for the poor.

THE CONSTITUTION ON SLAVERY IN THE STATES.

We clip the following from the *Emancipator*. We can take no exceptions to it; still, if the paragraph had appeared in some other sheet, the name would have been raised at once, and we should have been obliged to withhold such correspondence as we see fit, or to omit such parts as our judgment dictates, taking care, however, not to misrepresent by such omission the views of a contributor. But if we exercise this right leniently, the reader must understand that it is because we would rather err on the side of free discussion than against it. It is fully to expect perfection in a newspaper. God's will is full of imperfection, owing to man's fall. It is not an editor's part to say, "I shall the little picture he weekly presents to his readers be exempt from the faults of the original? Some things may be done by men singly. Then each can please himself to a T. He may have his coat cut precisely to every notion, when, or prejudice of his own. But other things must be done in association or combination, and here, all that each can expect is a reasonable fulfillment of the main object aimed at. When many persons unite in calling a pastor, the assumption is that he will do all that he can, according to his best judgment, to discharge the duties of his station. All may believe him honest, capable, useful—this he may demonstrate to them—but does each man expect him always to say and do precisely what to him may seem the best? What an absurdity! And so, some thousands of people, living over a surface of some thousands of miles, constituted variously, educated diversely, circumstanced differently, unite and become subscribers to a newspaper whose leading object they approve. They believe its editor honest, capable, useful—but it is to be expected that every line, every sentence, or allows, will please every taste; that every principle he states, every movement he makes, will be deemed by each subscriber precisely right—the very principle that ought to be stated—the very movement that ought to be made! Impossible! Well, if "John Smith the Younger" should take a certain view of the law, and not please John Smith the Older, what of it? Can you expect the two Smiths always to think alike? And if the junior Smith displeases the New York Evangelist in his animadversions on denominational benevolence, will not the Evangelist recollect that his frank condemnation of the faithfulness of the church was no less displeasing to its more cautious brethren? Is there any ground for acrimony of feeling or comment? What have they been doing the last six thousand years? If Buncombe make an incautious assertion, let Buncombe keep his temper, and thank the editor that to him is secured the privilege of correcting it.

There are two or three points in the article of "True Democrat" that require further notice. One is, the affirmation that the Emancipator has been "the only paper in the North which has not been raised at once, and we should have been obliged to withhold such correspondence as we see fit, or to omit such parts as our judgment dictates, taking care, however, not to misrepresent by such omission the views of a contributor. But if we exercise this right leniently, the reader must understand that it is because we would rather err on the side of free discussion than against it. It is fully to expect perfection in a newspaper. God's will is full of imperfection, owing to man's fall. It is not an editor's part to say, "I shall the little picture he weekly presents to his readers be exempt from the faults of the original? Some things may be done by men singly. Then each can please himself to a T. He may have his coat cut precisely to every notion, when, or prejudice of his own. But other things must be done in association or combination, and here, all that each can expect is a reasonable fulfillment of the main object aimed at. When many persons unite in calling a pastor, the assumption is that he will do all that he can, according to his best judgment, to discharge the duties of his station. All may believe him honest, capable, useful—this he may demonstrate to them—but does each man expect him always to say and do precisely what to him may seem the best? What an absurdity! And so, some thousands of people, living over a surface of some thousands of miles, constituted variously, educated diversely, circumstanced differently, unite and become subscribers to a newspaper whose leading object they approve. They believe its editor honest, capable, useful—but it is to be expected that every line, every sentence, or allows, will please every taste; that every principle he states, every movement he makes, will be deemed by each subscriber precisely right—the very principle that ought to be stated—the very movement that ought to be made! Impossible! Well, if "John Smith the Younger" should take a certain view of the law, and not please John Smith the Older, what of it? Can you expect the two Smiths always to think alike? And if the junior Smith displeases the New York Evangelist in his animadversions on denominational benevolence, will not the Evangelist recollect that his frank condemnation of the faithfulness of the church was no less displeasing to its more cautious brethren? Is there any ground for acrimony of feeling or comment? What have they been doing the last six thousand years? If Buncombe make an incautious assertion, let Buncombe keep his temper, and thank the editor that to him is secured the privilege of correcting it.

Another column of our paper contains the announcement of the death of this individual, whose name and principles have become widely known by his connection with that prosecution in the United States courts, as pleaded by the Emancipator, and so eloquently opposed, and which terminated, last winter, in the disgraceful decision of the highest tribunal of our land. Mr. Vanzandt was respected highly by all who knew him, as an upright benevolent man. He was one of those sterling characters who, in the sphere in which they were placed, recognize some higher object in life than is afforded by any selfish pursuit, and manifest a noble and disinterested regard for the welfare of his fellow-men.

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Mr. Vanzandt was a just, simple-hearted, kind man. His disease baffles his persecutors, and saves his little property from their grasp.

THE TRUE AMERICAN.

Mr. Vaughn, the true-hearted South Carolinian, has edited the *True American* subsequently Cassius M. Clay's departure for Mexico, has met with such encouragement from the friends of a free press in Kentucky and elsewhere, that he has proposed to recommence the publication of the paper at Louisville. He intends to be independent of all political parties, and to advocate the rights of the South, and the highest welfare of its inhabitants.—*Boston Whig.*

CONVENTION IN ILLINOIS.

The Convention to revise the Constitution of Illinois met at Springfield, at that State, on the 7th. Newton Cloud was chosen President, Henry W. Moore Secretary—both Democrats.

Among other subjects to be considered, is that of the laws relating to the apprehension of fugitives from servitude. Illinois has never been great in support of slavery, much beyond what the "compromises of the Constitution" are supposed to demand of her.

SCARCELY A NIBBLE.

During Mr. Webster's visit to Columbia, he was engaged with two eminent disciples of Link Walton, but was by no means successful. He got little more than nibbles, and the South Carolinian, to appease the disappointment of the great Northern Statesman, declared emphatically that "the fish alone in South Carolina have been insupportable to Mr. Webster."—*Richmond Whig.*

Mr. Webster will never be able to get more than nibbles at the South.

THE SEAT OF WAR.

Gentlemen, arrived at St. Louis from Santa Fe on the 3d of May, say that everything is quiet at this place.

General Taylor, at the latest dates, had not yet moved upon San Luis Potosi. It was not probable, judging from arrivals received from that place, that it would be defended.

General Scott was at Puebla, according to the latest advices. Santa Anna had sent in his resignation of the Presidency, in consequence of the deep hostility prevailing against him among some of his fellow-citizens, hoping that that step might hasten them all in defence of the city. It is not known whether it was accepted. No prospect of peace yet, although the late establishment of a paper at the city of Mexico, openly advocating peace, is certainly a sign not to be overlooked. Sickness at Vera Cruz was increasing.

The New Orleans Picayune has received files from the city of Mexico to the 29th ultimo. The capital was in a state of utter confusion. General Bravo had resigned his command. General Alamo was waiting further orders at Cuernavaca. General Salas and General Valencia were ordered to leave the city of Mexico on the 24th ultimo, for the city of San Luis Potosi, to take command of the army of the North. General Arista has refused to resume his military duties, till his conduct shall have been investigated.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

We can pardon much in the course of the trumpet-bearer of the Administration, for its ardent devotion to the Freedom of the Press. In reply to an article of the *Baltimore Clipper*, the editor of the *Union* says:

"We go for the fullest Freedom of the Press; first, because the profession of the press is, by our Constitution, singled out from all other professions, and secondly, because this entire freedom of the political press is necessary, in order to enable the people to judge of the comparative merits of the parties who aspire to lead and represent the two great parties in the country."

THE RIGHTS OF MARYLAND AND GENERAL TAYLOR.

Last Wednesday, the Whigs of Maryland held their General Convention in Cambridge. W. T. GILCHRIST was nominated as their candidate for the office of Governor, and the following resolution in relation to General Taylor was adopted by acclamation:

"Resolved, That the high intellectual capacity, the noble and generous qualities of the heart, the cool bravery of the mind, the presence of mind, the practical goodness, which have uniformly distinguished Major General ZACHARY TAYLOR as a citizen and a soldier, 'give the world assurance of a man in whom the highest trust under our Government may be reposed with entire confidence.'"

RIGHT IN ANY EVENT.

The *Baltimore Star* is accommodating. One of its Washington correspondents is continually predicting peace, the other, continued war. So, no matter which shall prove true, the *Baltimore Star* will be right, any how.

FREE AND SLAVE LABOR.

We referred lately to a remarkable collision which had taken place at the Tredggor Iron Works, in Virginia. The white and colored workmen, Mr. Anderson, the proprietor, suspecting a design to exert higher wages, published the rates paid, which "were much higher than wages paid for similar services at the North." The workmen replied, that their objection was not so much to the wages, but to the slaves in the establishment; unless they were discharged, they would not work. Thereupon Mr. Anderson appealed to the public, denouncing the movement as an attack upon the peculiar rights of slaveholders, and announced to the working men, that as they had discharged themselves, he would put slaves in their place. Great excitement was the result. The slave power was aroused, and the cry of an attack upon the peculiar institution arrayed against the poor working men the whole community.

The *Richmond Whig* denied them a hearing, and remarked: "The claim they set up (as we told one of them personally a few days ago, who desired us to insert an article in vindication of their position, which we respected, and which we wholly inadmissible in this latitude. The right of employers to select such kinds of labor as they may prefer, is one of which we cannot deprive them, without doing violence to the power which God has bestowed either for the purpose of intimidation, or with the less criminal, though unworthy design of inducing the removal of the colored population from the country. The sympathies of all communities are naturally and properly most in favor of the hard-working man, whose toils ought to be fairly rewarded. If the proprietors of the iron combination formed for the purpose avowed by the owners of the recent strike, can receive the slightest consideration."

But the case was not permitted to rest here. Not only did the press and public sentiment place them under the ban, but the strong arm of the law was brought to bear upon them. All we know of this is contained in the following paragraph from the *Richmond Republican*:

"The prosecution against the late workmen at the Tredggor Iron Works has been fortunately terminated, and the result is wholly gratifying to all parties. The proceedings were of a character calculated to produce a strong sensation in this community, and, in the whole South, and if the prosecution had been continued, it would have implied, beyond question, have suffered."

Upon their disclaimer of any purpose to use in an unlawful combination, or to violate the laws in any respect, and upon expressing their regret, if what they had done would amount to a violation of the laws, they were promptly discharged. It was an arrangement with the legal authorities, and not with Mr. Anderson, who yet maintains his ground of employing such labor as he may think proper. It is to be hoped that the same may operate as a warning, and that nothing having occurred to disturb the regular current of business."

Whether the men, after this coming down, went to work or not, whether Mr. Anderson would condescend to re-employ them in the place of the slaves or not, we have not heard. We presume, however, from the prejudice thus aroused against free labor, and from the fact that slaves could be employed at a far less price than freemen, that the latter would not be re-employed.

The *Charleston Mercury* is delighted with the firmness of Mr. Anderson, and thinks him deserving of the thanks of every slaveholder. His experiment, it says, demonstrates that "there are other sources of revenue" and "means of subsistence" for the slaves, besides cotton, rice, tobacco, and sugar. A portion of its speculations on this subject will serve to illustrate the infatuation of slaveholders in regard to the use of slave labor.

"It is, indeed, a most important part of our population, and the South was thoughtlessly falling into a false policy. As we became manufacturing, who operates were imported, superseding our negro workmen, composing a large portion of our population, all of which had to be provided for. The inevitable result was, that we were obliged to emigrate, or reluctantly to sell them. We reject, therefore, at the late strike in Richmond. It will awaken the South to the contemplation of a grave question, pregnant with the most momentous consequences, and on which the property and welfare of our people may greatly depend. The blacker mischiefs of this course was to expel the negro population, and to leave the South in a state of depopulation, and the South was thoughtlessly falling into a false policy. As we became manufacturing, who operates were imported, superseding our negro workmen, composing a large portion of our population, all of which had to be provided for. 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